

The danger to our democracy of concentrating the ownership of media nationwide in the hands of just a few companies was apparent before the trend began, but it is made alarmingly apparent by Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election.

There was a time when it was considered that the public owned the airwaves and broadcasters had to serve the public interest. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. The license renewal process should not be a mere formality.

Thank you.